
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2151

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Alexander, Dunshee, Sommers, Cox and Sehlin)

READ FIRST TIME 03/10/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to prioritizing proposed capital projects of higher
2 education institutions; adding a new section to chapter 28B.80 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that a capital
6 investment in higher education facilities is needed over the next
7 several biennia to adequately preserve, modernize, and expand the
8 capacity of the state's public two-year and four-year colleges and
9 universities. This investment is needed to responsibly preserve and
10 restore existing facilities and to provide additional space for new
11 students. Further, the legislature finds that capital appropriations
12 will need to respond to each of these areas of need in a planned,
13 balanced, and prioritized manner so that access to a quality system of
14 higher education is ensured.

15 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that a methodology be
16 developed that will guide capital appropriation decisions by rating and
17 individually ranking, in sequential, priority order, all major capital
18 projects proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and
19 colleges. Further, it is the intent of the legislature that this

1 rating, ranking, and prioritization of capital needs will reflect the
2 state's higher education policies and goals including the comprehensive
3 master plan for higher education as submitted by the higher education
4 coordinating board and as adopted by the legislature.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the 2005-2007 biennial capital budget submittal,
8 the public four-year institutions, in consultation with the council of
9 presidents and the higher education coordinating board, shall prepare
10 a single prioritized individual ranking of the individual projects
11 proposed by the four-year institutions as provided in subsection (2) of
12 this section. The public four-year institutions may aggregate minor
13 works project requests into priority categories without separately
14 ranking each minor project, provided that these aggregated minor works
15 requests are ranked within the overall list. For repairs and
16 improvements to existing facilities and systems, the rating and ranking
17 of individual projects must be based on criteria or factors that
18 include, but are not limited to, the age and condition of buildings or
19 systems, the programmatic suitability of the building or system, and
20 the activity/occupancy level supported by the building or system. For
21 projects creating new space or capacity, the ratings and rankings of
22 projects must be based upon criteria or factors that include, but are
23 not limited to, measuring existing capacity and space utilization
24 levels as determined by the higher education coordinating board.

25 (2) The single prioritized four-year project list shall be approved
26 by the governing boards of each public four-year institution and shall
27 be submitted to the office of financial management and the higher
28 education coordinating board concurrent with the institution's
29 submittal of their biennial capital budget requests.

30 (3)(a) The higher education coordinating board, in consultation
31 with the office of financial management and the joint legislative audit
32 and review committee, shall develop common definitions that public
33 four-year institutions and the state board for community and technical
34 colleges shall use in developing their project lists under this
35 section.

36 (b) As part of its duties under RCW 28B.80.330(4), the higher
37 education coordinating board shall, as part of its biennial budget

1 guidelines, disseminate, by December 1st of each odd-numbered year, the
2 criteria framework, including general definitions, categories, and
3 rating system, to be used by the public four-year institutions in the
4 development of the prioritized four-year project list. The criteria
5 framework shall specify the general priority order of project types
6 based on criteria determined by the board, in consultation with the
7 public four-year institutions.

8 (c) Under RCW 28B.80.330(4), the public four-year institutions
9 shall submit a preliminary prioritized four-year project list to the
10 higher education coordinating board by August 1st of each even-numbered
11 year.

12 (d) The state board for community and technical colleges shall, as
13 part of its biennial capital budget request, submit a single
14 prioritized ranking of the individual projects proposed for the
15 community and technical colleges. The state board for community and
16 technical colleges shall submit an outline of the prioritized community
17 and technical college project list to the higher education coordinating
18 board under RCW 28B.80.330(4) by August 1st of each even-numbered year.

19 (4) The higher education coordinating board, in consultation with
20 the public four-year institutions, shall resolve any disputes or
21 disagreements arising among the four-year institutions concerning the
22 ranking of particular projects. Further, should one or more governing
23 boards of the public four-year institutions fail to approve the
24 prioritized four-year project list developed pursuant to the criteria
25 framework specified in subsection (2) of this section, or should a
26 prioritized project list not be submitted by the public four-year
27 institutions concurrent with the submittal of their respective biennial
28 capital budget requests as provided in subsection (2) of this section,
29 the higher education coordinating board shall prepare the prioritized
30 four-year institution project list itself and submit it and the
31 integrated two-year and four-year project list to the governor and
32 legislature as part of its biennial budget recommendations for budget
33 development as provided under this section and chapter 43.88 RCW.

34 (5) The higher education coordinating board shall, in consultation
35 with the state board for community and technical colleges and the
36 public four-year institutions, submit its biennial capital budget
37 recommendations on the basis of a prioritized project ranking
38 reflecting the integration of the two-year and four-year prioritized

1 project lists. In developing this rating and ranking of capital
2 projects proposed by the two-year and four-year public universities and
3 colleges, the board:

4 (a) Shall be provided with available information by the public two-
5 year and four-year colleges and universities as deemed necessary by the
6 board;

7 (b) May utilize independent services to verify, sample, or evaluate
8 information provided to the board by the two-year and four-year public
9 universities and colleges; and

10 (c) Shall have full access to all data maintained by the office of
11 financial management and the joint legislative audit and review
12 committee concerning the condition of higher education facilities.

--- END ---